

BODENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT SIWARD JAMES CENTRE, BODENHAM
MONDAY 18th JULY 2011**

Item	Minutes	Action
	<p>Attendance</p> <p>Cllr Derek Ling (Chair) Cllr Robin Knott (Vice-Chair) Cllr Stan Davis Cllr Mrs Pam James-Moore Cllr Jeremy Millar (District Councillor)</p> <p>Mr Chris Smith (Clerk)</p> <p>12 members of the public were present.</p>	<p>DL RK SD PJ-M JM</p> <p>CS</p>
1.0	<p>Apologies for Absence. No apologies for absence were received.</p>	
2.0	<p>Declarations of Interest. Cllr Knott declared an interest in respect of the planning application for Ashgrove Farm (Item 9). Cllr Ling said that Cllr Knott could talk to this item, but could not vote.</p>	
3.0	<p>Co-option of new councillors Cllr Ling invited proposers for Bob Clarke, Dennis Jackson, Tony Mitcheson, Rhian Powell and Katy Wrathall, who had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. Cllr Knott proposed that they should be co-opted to the Parish Council. Cllr James-Moore seconded the proposal. The proposal was accepted unanimously.</p>	
4.0	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.</p>	
5.0	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes</p>	
5.1	<p><u>Large vehicles using Chapel Lane.</u> The Clerk reported that he had been advised by the highways Department at Herefordshire Council that the best option was to install signs at either end of the lower half of Chapel Lane to prevent vehicles of over 7.5 tons using that part of Chapel Lane.</p>	
5.2	<p><u>Ownership of the Parish Hall and the Car Park.</u> The Clerk had emailed Ms Sue Newbould, but no reply had been received. The Clerk was instructed to email again.</p>	CS
5.3	<p><u>Speeding traffic on the A417.</u> No reply had been received to the request to Herefordshire Council for the details of the traffic survey to be made available. The Clerk was instructed to email again.</p>	CS
5.4	<p><u>Provision of a playground slide.</u> Cllr Ling agreed to obtain a second quote for a slide and its installation. Cllr Powell agreed to report to the next Meeting on the recommendations for the playground specified in the latest ROSPA report.</p>	RP
5.5	<p><u>Potholes.</u> Most of the potholes have been repaired. Cllr Knott asked about the relative cost of temporary repairs to potholes and re-surfacing. Cllr Millar that re-surfacing was considerably more expensive and that Herefordshire Council's budget could not meet</p>	

	the extra cost. Cllr Millar had circulated a list of roads to be re-surfaced, including roads in Bodenham. This has now been circulated to councillors.	
5.6	<p><u>Dog fouling.</u> Cllr Ling reported that a meeting had taken place between himself, the Clerk, Phillip Blackman-Howard and Howard Cosgrave (Joint Masters of the North Herefordshire Hunt) and James Bradley – the Huntsman. Cllr Ling reported that the Hunt had identified several routes for walking the hounds outside the hunting season and that these would be used in rotation, as follows, starting at 6.45am:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bowley Lane and the Risbury loop on Mondays and Thursdays 2. Ketch Lane and one of two loops beyond on other days (except Sunday) <p>It was agreed that the Clerk would put details of this timetable on Parish noticeboards. It was also agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Blackman-Howard to invite him to add details of the Hunt on the Parish website. Cllr Ling further reported that Mr Cosgrave was following the hounds in order to clear up any mess left on roads and pavements, and, on the issue of noise, that the working day at the kennels starts at 6.30am.</p>	CS CS
5.7	<u>Overgrown hedge between Ashcroft Road and the Post Office.</u> Cllr Davis reported that the hedge had been cut, but not back to the boundary. Cllr Jackson agreed to approach the owners of the property about this issue.	DJ
5.8	<u>Footpath at England's Gate.</u> It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Amey to check whether the footpath extension is in Amey's 3-year rolling programme.	CS
5.9	<u>Speed Indication Device.</u> Cllr Knott said he had been unable to deploy the SID. Cllr Ling suggested that there should be a formal arrangement with a contractor to transport and deploy the SID. It was agreed that Cllr Ling and the Clerk should obtain quotes for this.	DL/CS
5.10	<u>Installation of 40mph signs in Bowley Lane.</u> Cllr Ling reported that all the signs except one had been installed.	
5.11	<u>Enquiry into the upgrade of Footpath PWIA.</u> Cllr Powell had attended the enquiry and reported that one of the two objections had been withdrawn and that most of the discussion concerned the exact route the footpath should follow. Cllr Powell felt that the proposal would be approved with some issues of detail about the exact route.	
6.0	Issues raised by members of the public.	
6.1	Mrs Liz Davies commented that it was unfortunate that the Hunt was using Ketch lane on a Saturday morning. Mrs Davies also commented that the possible introduction of car parking charges at Queenswood would deter visitors and people who had made donations towards seats.	
6.2	Mrs Davies also reported that there was a pothole on the A417 around the manhole outside the farm at the end of Woodhouse Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Amey again about this.	CS
6.3	Mrs Babs Mitcheson commented on the mess left by the hounds on the roads and the damage they had caused to the bank of the stream at Millcroft Farm. After much discussion of issues surrounding the Hunt, it was agreed that Cllr Ling should arrange a meeting the Hunt and the Parish Council. This meeting would replace the August Parish Council meeting, apart from urgent issues.	DL
6.4	Mr Tony Clark reported that speeding had increased on the C1125 after the SID had been removed. He asked whether the Parish Council had obtained enough data to be able to report to Herefordshire Council and whether Bodenham Parish Council could join a safety camera partnership. Cllr Mitcheson reported that he had agreed to provide CSO Steph Annette with SID data so that the Police could take appropriate action based on it, but that she had not yet given him a date for a meeting. He would remind her of this.	AM
6.5	Mr Clark also reported that there were potholes in Rowberry Lane. It was agreed that	

the Clerk would contact Amey about this.

- 6.6 Mr Clark also requested that the Parish Council nominate a Councillor or Councillors to be Bodenham Flood Protection Group representative, sandbag officer and emergency co-ordinator. Cllr Mitcheson volunteered to take on all of these posts.

7.0 Finance

- 7.1 Monthly accounts statements. Cllr Ling presented the accounts, which were accepted and are attached as Annex A..

- 7.2 Outstanding invoices. Cllr Ling reported that five new invoices had been received. Cheques were raised for the following amounts:

• C D Smith (Clerk's expenses)	£44.25
• Bodenham Parish Hall	£16.00
• Came and Company	£25.00
• A Clark	£22.50
• Tarmac	£1019.80

8.0 Planning applications

- 8.1 The following planning applications had been received:

- DMN111380/F: Eastfields: extension to existing dairy building. **It was agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to this application**
- DMS/11340/F: Ashgrove Farm, Marden: wind turbine and photovoltaic array. **It was agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to this application**

- 8.2 The following application had been approved:

- DMN/111325.CD: St. Michael's School, Church Lane: alterations to front of school, including a timber decked area and a cycle shelter

9.0 Updates

- 9.1 Bodenham Flood Protection Group. A report was received from Mr Tony Clark, which is attached as Annex B. Following these reports, Cllr Ling asked whether there was anything the Parish Council could do to support the BFPG. Cllr Mitcheson asked Cllr Millar to lend his support to the forthcoming 'Flood Exhibition' in order to raise awareness. Cllr Millar reported that he had spoken to Mr Steve Hodges at Herefordshire Council, who felt that the September date for the event was difficult and who thought that the Council would fund the event, if it was held later than September.

- 9.2 Community-Led Plan. Cllr Ling reported that the Steering Group had met twice since the last Parish Council meeting and would meet again on 20th July. Cllr Ling reported that the data from the questionnaire had now been received and subgroups were working on separate issues to identify points for an action plan, which would be presented to the Parish Council – possibly at the September Meeting.

10.0 Correspondence not previously circulated.

There was no correspondence which had not been previously circulated.

11.0 Other business (including District Councillor's comments.

- 11.1 Cllr Millar spoke to his report, which is attached as Annex C.

- 11.2 Cllr Wrathall offered to assist with the website.

- 11.3 Cllr Davis described how he would be affected by the proposed cuts to bus services. Cllr Millar said that the 426 was an important bus route, which would be largely retained.

- 11.4 Cllr Ling suggested that a planning subgroup be formed. Cllr Millar noted that all other parish councils in his Ward met bi-monthly with a planning subgroup of three people

11.5 meeting in between meetings. Cllr Knott and Cllr Powell proposed that meetings should continue to be held monthly. This issue was deferred until the next meeting. Cllr Ling reported that a litter pick would take place in September. (**Afternote**. This will now take place on Saturday, 1st October).

12.0 Date of next meeting.

The next Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 1st August, if arrangements can be made with the North Herefordshire Hunt. Otherwise the next meeting will be held on 5th September in the Seward James Centre.

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 9.35pm

JUNE

ANNEX A

BALANCE 18 MAY

BANK OF IRELAND	5660
LLOYDS	41337

TOTAL BALANCE	46997
----------------------	--------------

JUNE INCOME

BANK IRELAND ACCOUNT	5660
ADVERTISING	507
VAT REFUND	5863
PARISH HALL LOAN	374
OTHER	0

TOTAL INCOME	12404
---------------------	--------------

JUNE EXPENSES

CAR PARK LOAN	749
PARISH PLAN MAPS	299
BANK IRELAND ACCOUNT	5660
CLERK SALARY	142
CLERK EXPENSES	275
HALL FLOOR	429
CHURCH LANE SIGNS	151
LAND REGISTRATION	101

TOTAL EXPENSES	7806
-----------------------	-------------

BANK ACCOUNT 18 JUNE	51595
-----------------------------	--------------

CHEQUES RAISED NOT BANKED

TARMAC	38943
BALANCE CLERK SALARY	32
FLOOD GROUP	493

TOTAL	39468
--------------	--------------

CHEQUES/INCOME NOT BANKED

FLOOD GROUP	270
NEWSLETTER	25
PARISH PLAN GRANT	750

TOTAL	1045
BALANCE	13172

C/FORWARD	13172
------------------	--------------

INVOICES AWAITING APPROVAL

WEBSITE	100
3 MONTHS NEWSLETTER	514
COUNCIL HALL RENTAL	61
PARISH PLAN HALL RENTAL	54
ADVERT NEW CLERK	57
PARISH PLAN EXPENSES	401

TOTAL 1187

BALANCE 11985

REPRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS**FLOOD GROUP**

OPENING BALANCE	1402
INCOME	270
EXPENDITURE	493

NEW BALANCE 1179

PARISH PLAN

OPENING BALANCE	0
INCOME	750
EXPENDITURE	754

NEW BALANCE -4

PARISH COUNCIL

OPENING BALANCE	45595
INCOME	12429
EXPENDITURE	47214

NEW BALANCE 10810

FUTURE COMMITTED EXPENDITURE

WEBSITE	400
SID SOCKETS	600
SIDS	4000
PARISH PLAN	1500

TOTAL 6500

AVAILABLE FUNDS 4310

BFPG REPORT

Since the last Parish Council meeting on 9th May the Group have held 4 working parties.

13th May. The drains and ditches in the area of Millcroft Road/Ketch Lane junction were cleared.

27th May. The banks of the Millcroft Brook in the Brockington Bridge area were cleared and some of the Group walked the brook checking on the state of the banks, etc as far as the garden of No.19 Millcroft Road.

24th June. The drains and ditches of Chapel Lane up as far as Hillview House were cleared.

8th July. Work started on clearing the ditch in Mr Pugh's field that runs from the rear of the houses in Orchard Close.

We held our usual monthly meetings on 31st May and 28th June.

On 12th May it was announced that Bodenham had been successful in its bid for a Property Level Flood Protection Grant. The grant was for £144,500.

On 23rd May Mrs Babs Mitcheson and I had a meeting with Ms Jackie Bremner of the Withington Flood Action Group (who had received a grant in the previous round of funding) so that the Group would have some idea of how the project would be implemented in Bodenham.

On the 25th May the officials of the Group met our new County Councillor Jeremy Millar at Millcroft Farm and discussed the flooding problems of Bodenham.

On 9th June a meeting was held at Siward James between those residents on the list of flooded properties and Mr Steve Hodges and colleagues who are responsible for implementing the scheme for the Property Level Flood Protection Grant. They explained the process and timing of the necessary surveying, etc. (Cllr Tony Mitcheson then carried on to explain in greater detail the forthcoming sequence of events).

12th June. This was Open Gardens' day in Bodenham and members of the Group ran the refreshments at The Forge. A profit of £122-50p was made for the Groups funds. From the actual open gardens nearly £300 was collected for the MS Charity.

The flap valve at the end of the Orchard Close ditch where water passes into the Moor Brook is too large and heavy, so Herefordshire Council have now submitted an application for funding to replace the flap valve with one of a more suitable size.

The question was asked who was going to represent the Parish Council in the BFPG and which Councillor was going to be the Emergency Officer and be responsible for sandbags, etc. Cllr Mitcheson said that he was prepared to take on these roles and it was agreed that he should do so.

All nominations for Officials and Committee of the BFPG have to be in by the end of the BFPG meeting being held on 23rd July.

The AGM of the Group is being held on 30th August.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

This report covers 2 major issues for the county over the coming months and years:

- Localities, Locality Working, and Localism
- Transport

Localities, Locality Working, and Localism

This subject causes debate and confusion at Parish level. This is perhaps not surprising as the information disseminated about localism has been less than clear over recent months. I've tried to set out here a few simple examples. I'm indebted to Cllr Philip Price, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Education for his work in simplifying localism. Herefordshire Council has created 9 locality working areas to better deliver Council services to residents using partnership working arrangements with other agencies and the third sector. This will ensure services are delivered more efficiently by locality teams that can work from these locality areas, from home using technology, or through better mobility to the residents that need a particular service or intervention.

This will reduce main accommodation office requirements and get service delivery out to where it is required. There will be no increase in management or tiers of management, and it will reduce travel significantly and congestion in Hereford. An example of locality working might be in Children's services where a child and the family are subject to a CAF (Common Assessment Framework). This would be undertaken by the Children's services in the locality making it easier for the child and family, and those partners needed for the service would be more easily accessed. Partners might include schools, police, local health practitioners, social workers, education welfare officers, educational psychologists, children and family court advisory support services, (CAFCAS), volunteers, and third sector organisations. Many other services can in future be delivered in this way.

Move a step further and we will have to consider what the impact of Localism might bring in the future. I know that this is being raised at Parish Level around community self-help in delivering local services that may not be funded in the future from government subsidies via Herefordshire Council.

There is currently a debate within Parishes and Council about Participatory budgeting or PB where discussions will focus on how money could be raised for specific requirements within parishes or wider localities. You should have had details from HALC on this. Neighbourhood plans will complement village and parish plans and take a more regional approach for us in the wider local area. What this does not do is create parishes that take planning decisions! What it does do is give parishes an input into the wider aspect of our rural area and how it should develop in the future by a cross section of the wider community. Parishes will be represented alongside other stakeholders in the community.

Transport

Bus services. There has been a consultation on bus services, and another on community bus services. Comments will be fed into a report that will be discussed by the Council cabinet on 28th July. Many bus service Contracts are up for tender this autumn and your views will help inform that process. The reduction in funding to local government and the loss of specific grants, including the Rural Bus Subsidy Grant, has placed considerable pressure on the available budget to support bus services. Whilst the Council has used reserves to help support public transport in 2011/12 the budget for route subsidies is £1,616K which is a reduction of £130K from the 2010/11 budget of £1,746K. In addition, there was a budget pressure of £134K as a result of contract price inflation in 2010/11 meaning that the overall pressure is around £264K.

Car parking charges. Many of you will have seen in the local media that parking charges in Herefordshire are likely to increase shortly. Charges have not increased for 3 years, but now need to be increased to contribute to the savings the council has to make this year, and in the future.

If you need to contact me please either email me on jmillar2@herefordshire.gov.uk or phone me on 07767 441003, and I'll get back to you as soon as I can.

There will be no report in August, but I shall keep Parish Clerks informed of any important issues which arise during the summer.

Jeremy Millar
District Councillor, Hampton Court Ward
July 2011